

REMARKS

Claims 1-14, 16, 17, 35, and 36 are pending in this application. Claims 15 and 18-34 are cancelled herein. Claim 1 is amended and claims 35 and 36 are added herein. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims.

Claims 1-7 and 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Biolsi, *et al.*, and claims 8-10, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Biolsi, *et al.* in view of Yu, *et al.* and Raaijmakers, *et al.*

However, the single independent claim 1 has now been amended to include a limitation clarifying that photosensitive material that soaks into the pores of the porous sidewalls is not developed and is not removed (see paragraphs 39 and 45). Nothing in Biolsi, *et al.* or Raaijmakers, *et al.* discloses, much less teaches purposely not developing photosensitive material so that it is not cleaned away or removed and, therefore, forms a barrier layer. To the contrary, according to Biolsi, *et al.*, after using the second layer of photosensitive material in a second etching step to form vias, the remaining patterned resist is intentionally stripped from the device, whether developed or undeveloped (see column 7, lines 10-25). The present invention clearly only removes the developed photoresist and leaves the underdeveloped resist as the barrier layer.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issuance. If the Examiner should have any questions, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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